



Updating the Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre

Bonnie Waddell, Chief Librarian
Nova Scotia Agricultural College

USAIN Conference, April 2008



Wild Blueberry Production Areas



Origin of the Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre

- Created to satisfy the requirements of AgNIC in 1998
- Cooperative project of the Nova Scotia Blueberry Institute, Nova Scotia Agricultural College - MacRae Library, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture.
- Contributions from the Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia, and Wild Blueberry Association of North America.
- Gordon Kinsman contributed an electronic copy of his book, “The History of the Lowbush Blueberry Industry in Nova Scotia” vol.1 (1880 – 1950) and vol.2 (1950 – 1990)

Launched at a Library Breakfast

“All about the Bees and the Blueberries”

- Dr. George Wood was speaker – entomologist who did basic research related to insects, fruit set and pollination of wild blueberry in 1950's, 1960's, 1970's
- All the researchers from that era were invited – they came from as far away as Maine and Ontario. It was a reunion for those who did the basic research that established the industry.

Wild Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium* Aiton)



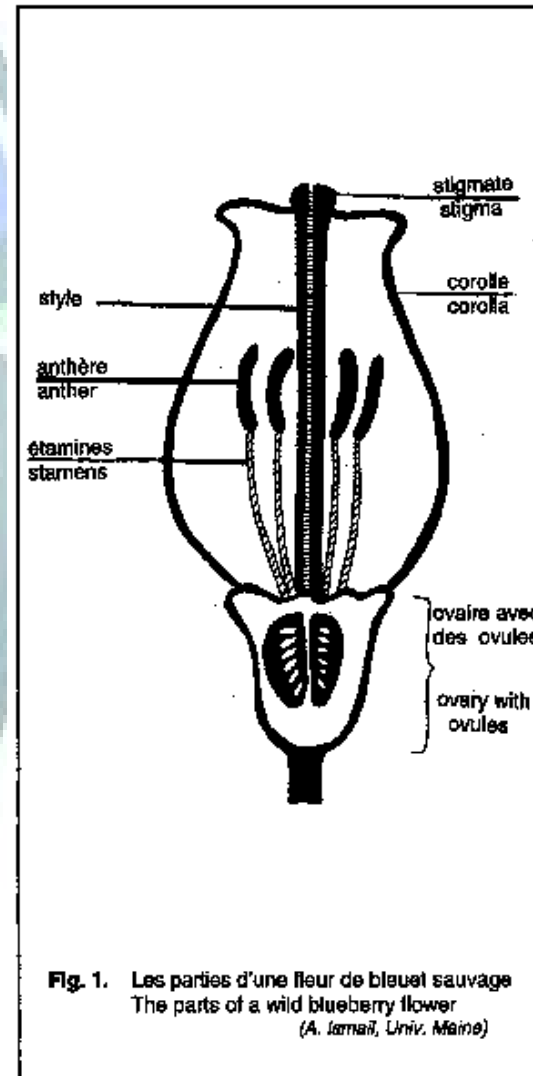
- The most important horticultural commodity in Nova Scotia
- 1953: 510,300 kg worth \$152,000
- 1986-1990: 8,760,676 kg worth \$10,043,103
- 1996: 13,700,761 kg worth \$12,384,000 (farm-gate)
- 2003: 23,000,000 kg worth \$27,000,000 (farm gate)
- 2006: 14,150,000 kg worth \$33,235,000 (farm gate)

Lowbush (Wild) Blueberry



- Member of Ericaceae or Heath family
- Low sweet blueberry: *Vaccinium angustifolium* Ait.
 - Stems are smooth with a height of 8 to 15 cm
- Sour top blueberry: *Vaccinium myrtilloides*
 - Stems and leaves are covered with tiny hairs and grow to a height of 15 to 24 cm

Wild Blueberry Flower





Q135



Q133

Q133
ROOTS
Q133



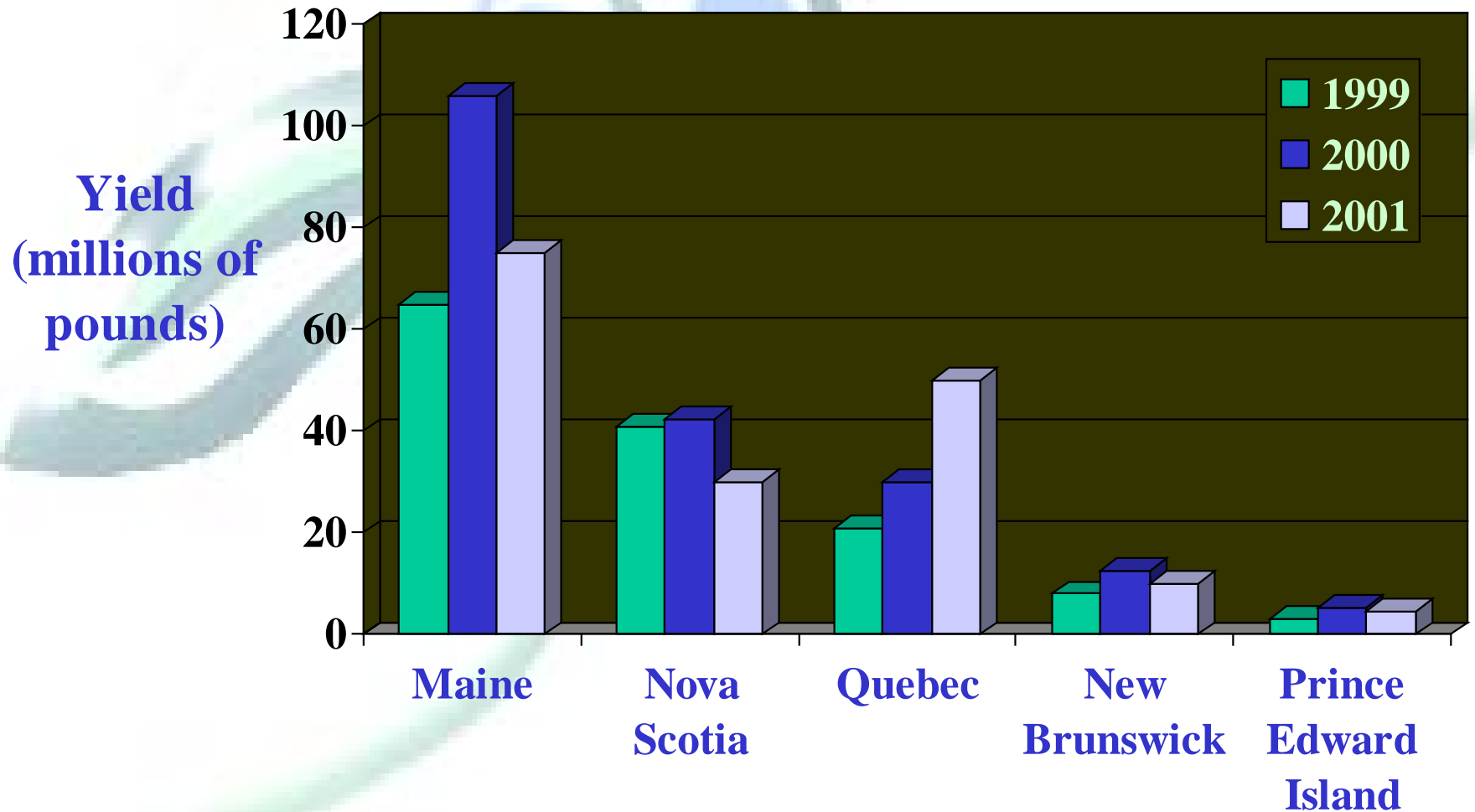
Q134

Q134
ROOTS
Q134



Q131

Wild Blueberry Yields



Objectives for the Cooperative Agreement

- Update the site – links to fact sheets
- Add depth with selected full-text representing historical, technical and research information. Add ten years to the Bibliography 1991-2000
- Expand the geographic coverage with new material from Maine, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland & Labrador, and Quebec (NB, PQ in French)
- Begin transition to ‘Wild Blueberries and Indigenous Fruit’ by adding cold climate wild berries.

Wild Blueberry Research Group at NSAC

- 10 researchers
- Train technical, undergraduate, graduate (M.Sc. and Ph. D.)
- Wild Blueberry Research Centre (Debert, NS)











Expansion of the web site

- To complete a needs assessment among the producers, processors, researchers, government officials, students and public
- To create an advisory group of stakeholders

Transitioning

- Begin transition from **Wild Blueberries** to **Wild Blueberry and Indigenous Fruit** by adding material on other fruits such as lingonberry, cloudberry, pigeon berry, partridge berry, etc.
- Reflect the research interests of the College.

Challenges

- Two people kept the web site going. Stable but they were burning out. The site is quite static by today's standards.
- First job posting (April 2006) for the update had no applicants from Dalhousie Univ. School of Library & Information Management, so . . .

Strategy #1

- Expand the Goal and objectives: To create a dynamic, visually stimulating interactive environment for stakeholders
- To post the position for SLIM graduates
- To leverage the NAL Cooperative Agreement to raise additional funds to double the salary and the length of the contract, and . . .

Strategy #2

- Provision for working at home
- Include liaison with industry and research group as part of project
- Include needs assessment and face to face meetings with key personnel
- Include funding for attending conferences
- Seek support of processors, producers, both provincial and federal government agencies.












R2
T3










Old Web Site









[About Us](#)
[Bibliography](#)
[Educational Resources](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Factsheets](#)
[History](#)
[Related Sites](#)
[Recipes](#)
[Site Statistics](#)

Welcome to the Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre

The Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre project began in June 1997 to provide scientific and technical information about wild blueberry production and marketing for producers, agricultural professionals, researchers and students by publishing information on the Internet.

The initiative was originally a combined effort of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, MacRae Library of Nova Scotia Agricultural College, NS Wild Blueberry Producers' Association, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Research Branch. NSAC continues to maintain the site, taking advantage of the resources of all provinces in the Atlantic region, the University of Maine and beyond. The site is listed on the US AgNIC site as the repository of record for information on wild blueberries.

To Search the Wild Blueberry Centre:

Search by keyword:

Search where ?

Number of results per page:

Arrange in Order:

Add YOUR Wild Blueberry information. [Send us the URL.](#)

New Web Site

Wild Blueberry
Network
Information
Centre



- Home
- About Us
- Research Centre
- Educational Resources
- FAQs
- Expert Advice
- Related Sites
- Recipes
- Other Wild Berries
- Site Index
- Site Statistics
- Search

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Welcome to the
**Wild Blueberry Network
Information Centre**



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The Wild Blueberry Network Centre has undergone some exciting changes in 2007. The site has a

Site Statistics

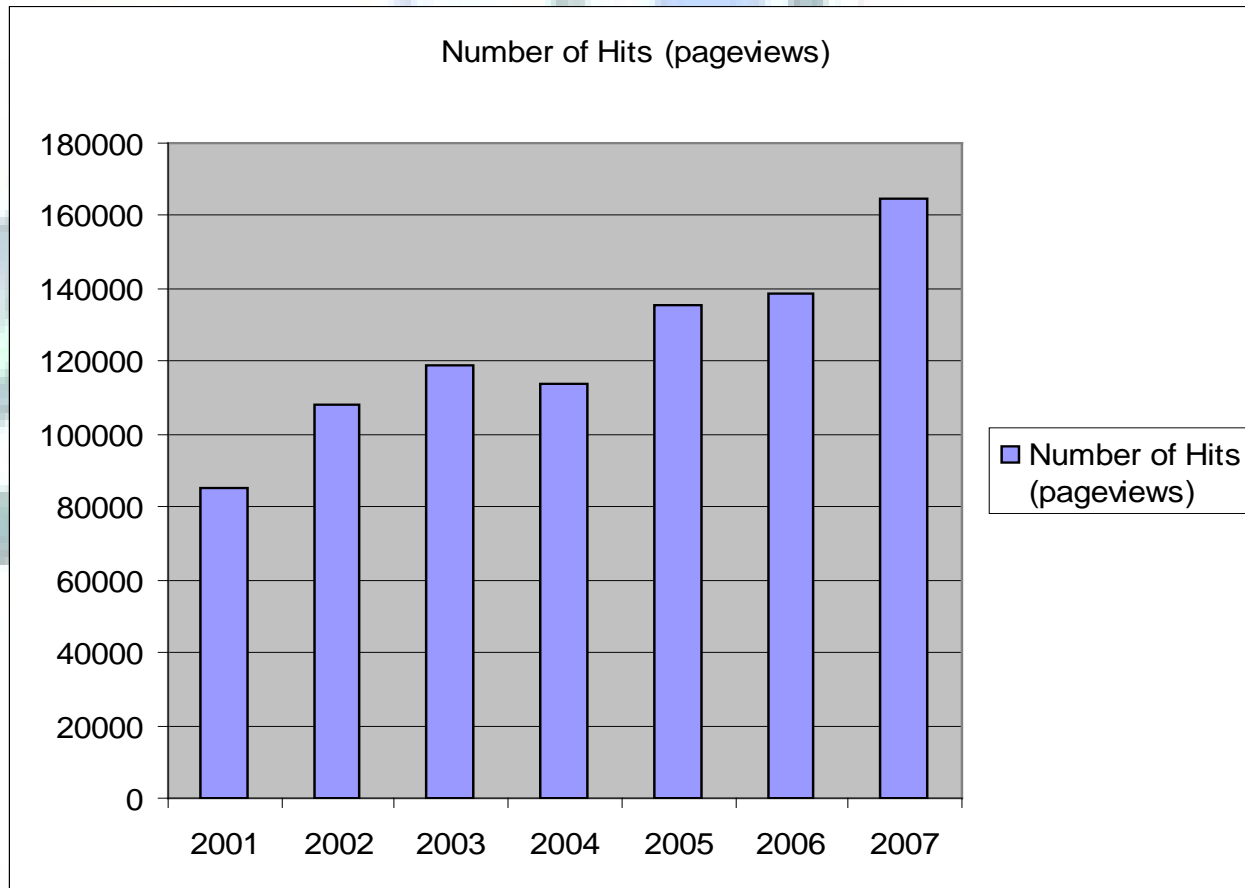
<http://nsac.ca/wildblue/stats>

* NAL Cooperative Agreement

	Pages Viewed Annually	
2001	84950	
2002	108044	+ 27%
2003	119254	+ 10%
2004	113619	- 5%
2005	135393	+ 19%
2006	138404	+ 2%
2007*	164705	+ 19%

Site Statistics

<http://nsac.ca/wildblue/stats>



Stakeholder Contributions

INDUSTRY CONTACTS

- Principle Researcher supervised
- Active producer group advised – want more access to research
- Retired Researcher reviewed articles selected for bibliography

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

- Agriculture Representatives in other provinces provided new e-content and updated factsheets

LIBRARY CONTACTS

- National Library of Canada - links to theses
- AgNIC Coordinator and NAL staff – coaching and metadata

Administration

STAFFING

- Job posted at Dalhousie University SLIM (March)
- Coordinator hired – Coop Agreement was matched by Library to pay 17 weeks of professional salary. (April)
- Worked at home (Halifax), visiting library (Truro) once a week (May-August)

SUPPORT

- Library provided use of a laptop, PC – Dreamweaver, e-mail, office space & phone, and set up IT accounts.
- Library supported attendance at Adobe Acrobat Professional workshop
- Library interacted with Coordinator every day or two by e-mail

CONTACTS

- Introduced to NSAC Web & AgNIC Coordinators
- Arranged weekly or bi-weekly meeting with Dr. David Percival, Principle Researcher or Dr. Leonard Eaton, and Chief Librarian to discuss progress.
- Arranged consultation at the Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia Board meeting.

















KEEP FRESH

NET WT. 10 LBS.

WILD BLUEBERRIES

732A38

What's New

- New Template – Home Page
- New Structure
- Improved Navigation
- New Content

New Template



NSAC. Science Applied to Life.

Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre



[Home](#)

[Research News](#)

[Researchers](#)

[Areas of Expertise](#)

[Industry Partnering](#)

[Research and Graduate
Studies Office](#)

Home

Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here.

Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here. Introduction paragraph here.



New Home Page



NSAC
NSAC. Embrace Your World.

*Wild Blueberry
Network
Information
Centre*



[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Research Centre](#)
[Educational Resources](#)
[FAQs](#)
[Expert Advice](#)
[Related Sites](#)
[Health | Recipes](#)
[Other Wild Berries](#)
[Site Index](#)
[Site Statistics](#)
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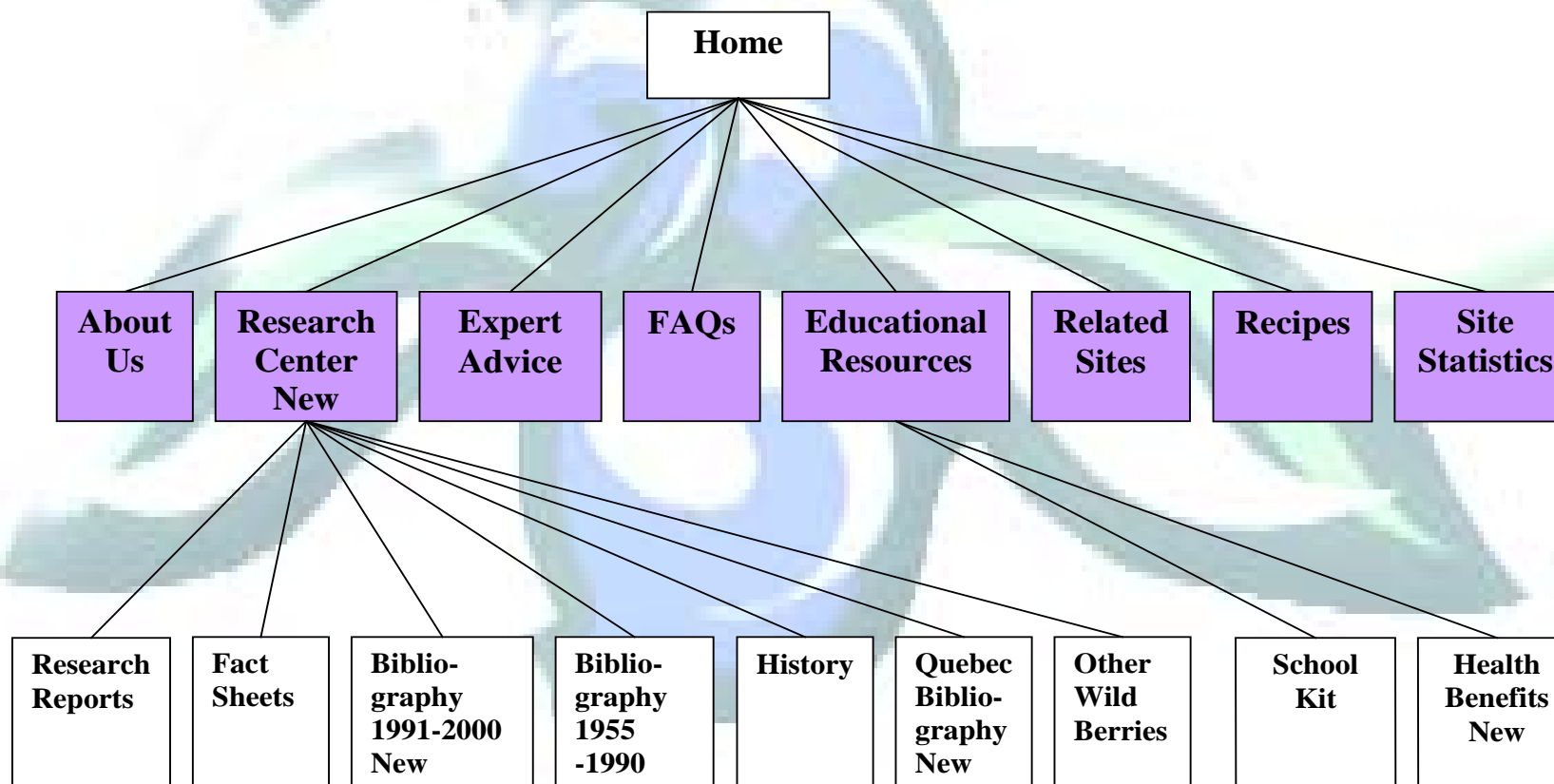
Welcome to the
**Wild Blueberry Network
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c. Nova Scotia Agricultural College

The Wild Blueberry Network Centre has undergone some exciting changes in 2007. The site has a

New Structure



Improved Navigation

- Old Menu



- New Menu

Home
About Us
Research Centre
Educational Resources
FAQs
Expert Advice
Related Sites
Recipes
Other Wild Berries
Site Index
Site Statistics
Search
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Improved Navigation

Home
About Us
Research Centre
Bibliography 1955-1990
Bibliography 1991-2000
Fact Sheets
History
Newsletters
Research Reports
Educational Resources
FAQs
Expert Advice
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- **Sample navigation bar**

New content

Wild Blueberry Network Information Centre

[Home](#)

[About Us](#)

[Research Centre](#)

[Educational Resources](#)

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[Home](#) > [Other Wild Berries](#) > [Cloudberries](#)

Cloudberry (*Rubus chamaemorus*)

General Information

[USDA Germplasm Resources Information Network \(GRIN\) Taxonomy for Plants profile](#)

[USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services PLANTS database profile](#)

Factsheets

[Native Plants of Alaska: A Guide for Producing and Cultivating Cloudberry](#) (PDF via University of Alaska)

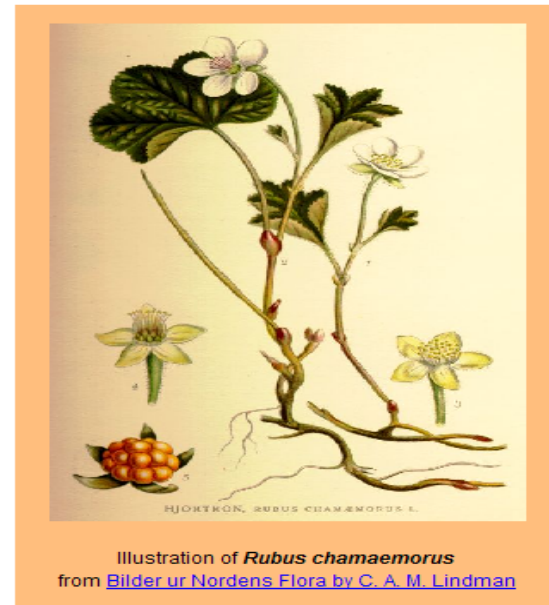
[Cloudberry](#) (HTML via Purdue University's NewCROP)

[Commercialization of the Cloudberry \(*Rubus chamaemorus* L.\) in Norway](#) (HTML via Purdue University's NewCROP)

Managing Wild Bog Blueberry, Lingonberry, Cloudberry and Crowberry Stands in Alaska.
[ONLINE](#) (PDF at University of Alaska)

Cloudberry Bibliography

The Industry



New Content



■ *Chemistry and Bacteriology* (235/08)

- Bushway, R.J.; J. Kugabalasooriar; L.B. Perkins; R.O. Harrison; B.E.S. Young; and B.S. Ferguson. 1992. Determination of methyl 2-benzimidazolecarbamate in blueberries by competitive inhibition enzyme immunoassay. *J. AOAC Int.* 75 (2) : 323-327.
- Darnell, R.L.; R. Cano-Medrano; K.E. Koch; and M.L. Avery. 1994. Differences in sucrose metabolism relative to accumulation of bird-deterrent sucrose levels in fruits of wild and domestic *Vaccinium* species. *Physiol. Plant.* 92 (2) : 336-342.
- Duy, J. C. 2000. A survey of the quantitative intraspecific variation of anthocyanins, phenolics and antioxidant capacity in leaves and fruit of *Vaccinium angustifolium* Aiton clones in Nova Scotia. M.Sc. Thesis, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS. (ISBN: 0612377962)

[ONLINE*](#) (PDF | 3.59 MB | Theses Canada)

[ABSTRACT](#) (Theses Canada)

*This thesis is for educational and public personal use only; any commercial use or publication of this resource is strictly prohibited.

- Hainstock, L. J. 2003. Seasonal photochemistry, growth dynamics, and carbon allocation of the wild blueberry plant (*Vaccinium angustifolium* Ait.) M.Sc. Thesis, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS. (ISBN: 0612675661)

[ABSTRACT](#) (Theses Canada)

Still to do

- Update fact sheets (annual)
- Health benefits science - links to full text
- Add Researcher profiles and links to recent research and trials
- More full-text & links to recent theses
- Update bibliography 2001 – 2007
- Add YouTube video
- Add other berries

A stylized illustration of a blueberry plant. It features several green leaves with prominent veins and a central cluster of blueberries. The blueberries are depicted in various shades of blue and purple, with some showing a white bloom. The entire illustration is set against a white background.

Wild Blueberries

Nature's #1 Antioxidants Fruit



**Thank you AgNIC, NAL, and USAIN
for your interest and support!**